

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/660,582

Applicant(s)

SEKO ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Sarah J. Chisdes

2877

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--
All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to the amendment received 19 April 2005.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-20.
3. The drawings filed on 12 September 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some*
 - c) None of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

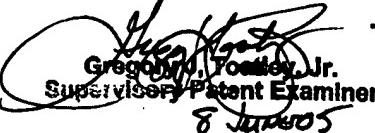
* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.


Gregory J. Fodderay, Jr.
Supervisory Patent Examiner
8 JUN 2005

DETAILED ACTION

This action is in response to the amendments filed April 19, 2005, with the understanding that the supplemental action mailed April 21, 2005 has been received and taken under consideration.

The present application was examined, and a non-final rejection was mailed on March 30, 2005. Upon examination of a related case, double patenting issues were brought to the examiner's attention, and a supplemental non-final action adding provisional double patenting rejections was mailed on April 21, 2005. A response from the applicant in regard to the first action of March 30 was recorded as of April 19, 2005, but was not forwarded to the examiner until April 28, 2005. The second examiner's action was not received by the applicant prior to sending a response to the first action. The examiner's supervisor, Gregory Toatley, spoke to a representative of the applicant on April 29, and the representative acknowledged that the supplemental action mailed April 21 had been received and was under consideration.

Double Patenting

The provisional double patenting rejection on claim 1 has been withdrawn, according to the directives in MPEP 804, which state:

The "provisional" double patenting rejection should continue to be made by the examiner in each application as long as there are conflicting claims in more than one application unless that "provisional" double patenting rejection is the only rejection remaining in one of the applications. If the "provisional" double patenting rejection in one application is the only rejection remaining in that application, the examiner should then withdraw that rejection and permit the application to issue as a patent, thereby converting the "provisional" double patenting rejection in the other application(s) into a double patenting rejection at the time the one application issues as a patent.

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The provisional double patenting rejection in commonly assigned Application No. 10/426,632, will therefore become a (non-provisional) double patenting rejection when the present application becomes a patent.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-20 allowed.

Because the provisional double patenting rejection has been withdrawn from claim 1, the objections to the claims dependent on claim 1 are also withdrawn.

The rewording of claim 18, as specified in the amendment, renders it allowable.

The reasons for allowable subject matter have been detailed in the prior action mailed April 21, 2005.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sarah J. Chisdes whose telephone number is 571-272-8540. The examiner can normally be reached on 9am -6:30pm Monday through Thursday and 9am-5:30pm on alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gregory J. Toatley Jr. can be reached on 571-272-2800 ext. 77. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

S.J. Chisdes

S.J. Chisdes, Ph.D.

June 8, 2005

Gregory J. Tooley, Jr.
Supervisory Patent Examiner
GJT/jmc